

SECRET

25X1A

DPS-4873

Copy 4 of 6

11 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR :

Ops DPS/DCI

THROUGH :

Director of Operations, DPS/DCI

SUBJECT :

Dual Oxygen System

REFERENCE :

3140 (OUT 84766). 8 October 1958

1. I am aware that Lockheed is developing a dual oxygen system and that Kelly Johnson still favors its installation as standard equipment in the U-2. I assume we are paying for this development work.

2. Although I am, of course, eager that we should develop and carry out any modifications which will increase reliability, I have formed the opinion in long contact with Kelly Johnson that he tends to attribute too large a part in the incidents and accidents that have occurred with the U-2 on personal equipment and the ship's oxygen system. Accordingly, I believe that in this one area Lockheed's recommendations must be carefully reviewed before they are acted on.

3. I would appreciate it if you would advise me as to the current status of their work on a dual oxygen system and your own plans for the evaluation of any prototype they install and of their recommendations for general installation. I assume that no decision would be made to authorize a major modification of this character without the prior knowledge of Colonel Burke or myself.

S. M.
RICHARD M. BESSELL, JR.
 Special Assistant to the Director
 for Planning and Development

RMB:cw

1-Adse

2-Dir Ops DPS/DCI

3-Dep Proj Dir DPS/DCI

4-Contracting Officer DPS/DCI

5-SA/PD/DCI subj file

6-SA/PD/DCI chrono

DOCUMENT NO. *78*
 NO CHANGE IN CLASS. *X*
 IT DECLASSIFIED
 CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
 NEXT REVIEW DATE: *2011*
 AUTH: HR 70-2
 DATE: *8/25/* REVIEWED: *610256*

SECRET